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Tonique Hunter



Cary Holcomb



Brittney Garrison



Ashley MacDonald



Elizabeth Hernandez



Haley Lawrence



Erika Schwehr



Jeremy Edwards



Khal-vyn Edmond



Jessica Arevalo



Malage LeBlanc



Mariah Ransom



Miranda Medugno



Monica Keller



Nicole Wilmoth



“Silent Laughter”

High School Performance



Ross Nahinu



Subrina Morales



Tony Guido



Shea Rasmus



Sal Garcia



Stunt Billy takes a beating at the hands of Max's dame.



Evil Lionel deceives a grief-stricken Ruth.

ACTION PHOTOS

by cat cassidy



Hey! You have my hat.



Max bullies Billy.



Billy and his pal plan, while Ruth poses.



Pies fly!



Ruth and Billy together forever.



The pie finale.



Lionel and Max steal Billy's invention.



Billy proposes.



A sad dance moves everyone to tears.



"You have the wrong man!"

Audience Perspective

The students' creativity was original and refreshing. A smile continues to come to my face as I think about many of the hilarious scenes acted out on stage. I loved the scene where the sad dancers moved beautifully across the stage while those in Keen's Chophouse wept uncontrollably! Too funny!!

My visits to the Fremont campus always give me an opportunity to learn something new, and I am always reminded of how well our students can perform academically and socially when given the best learning environment. Again, I was reminded of the wonderful opportunities available to the students at the California School for the Deaf.

Please extend my deep appreciation to your students for enriching my life with their outstanding performance, and congratulations to you for your hard work in producing a wonderful play.

—*Dr. William Ellerbee, Jr., Deputy Superintendent School and District Operations Branch, CDE*

SHEA RASMUS

The play “Silent Laughter” was a great first-time experience for me.

The memories seem so colorful...even though we all were in black and white :o)

SUBRINA MORALES

“Silent Laughter” provided a good experience for me to not to act like Surbrina... always being shy on stage. Participating in the play was a lot of fun.

Also, Heidi Burns was the best director!

ASHLEY MACDONALD

The experiences I had in the play were priceless.

I am glad I got the chance to be in it and learn from each other’s experience.

As an actor, it was a big help. I will definitely miss it!

BRITTNEY GARRISON

The experience I had was different; I never thought that I could act as five different characters, but I did it.

NICOLE WILMOTH

The play was awesome and fun!

CARY HOLCOMB

My word will be: Amazing

JEREMY EDWARDS

Magnificent



A word from Director Heidi Burns

I had the pleasure and honor of directing this year’s high school play, “Silent Laughter.” Looking back, I am amazed by what the actors managed to accomplish in only 30 short rehearsals! This is only my second time directing at CSD (I directed “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” back in 2005), and I was excited to give it another shot. I chose “Silent Laughter” because I love slapstick humor and I love silent movies; but I also saw it as a chance to show off CSD’s bilingual culture; right on stage we had American Sign Language and printed English. I felt it was important for audiences to see the students as full users of both languages. Of course, I also thought it would be fun to see people run around and hit each other with pies.

We had so much fun creating that energetic, crazy show—but I can tell you it wasn’t all fun and games! Each actor committed to rehearsing for more than 12 hours a week and gave up three weekends in a row to make the show a success. That doesn’t include all the extra time that some actors put in working on costumes, props, and set pieces. The rehearsals were grueling due to limited time and all of the physical comedy: there were nights we rehearsed for four hours straight without a break. Through the tough schedule, the crazy hours, the injuries (both from rehearsals and outside of rehearsals), illness, and homework, the actors maintained a positive attitude and made each night worthwhile.

I have been blessed to work in several different theaters—in many different shows with a diverse groups of people; but in my more than 20 years of theater experience, I have never seen a group of actors pull together like the cast and crew of “Silent Laughter.” From helping each other with make-up and hairstyles to cleaning up the pie-covered stage at the end of the show, these actors supported each other more than any other group I have ever worked with.

There is more to theater than creating a product that audiences can enjoy—sometimes doing a play can change your life. Here are some things that the actors said to me over the course of the play (names have been omitted to protect the innocent).

“I have been in classes with _____ since middle school. But, I never talked to him. Since we’ve been in a play together, I talk to him all the time. I think, ‘Wow, I never knew that person until now.’”

“I was so scared when I auditioned! Now, I feel more confident and I know I will be okay on stage.”

“I didn’t know this would be so hard! But now I know I can do something hard and not give up.”

“I think I want to do this again!”

I am deeply thankful to all of the actors and their families for giving their all to making “Silent Laughter” one of the best shows I have ever been involved in. I am so proud of you!

Mainstreamed students visit CSD

to watch *Silent Laughter* & eat BBQ lunch



Over the course of two days, the California School for the Deaf opened its doors to 672 mainstreamed students, staff, and parents, from 31 schools throughout Northern California.

Our young visitors were treated to a special performance of the high school production “Silent Laughter” along with a BBQ lunch.

On this page you can see artwork about the play created by the students of Santa Clara County, along with comments by the students of San Mateo.

I liked the play. I laughed a lot. Thank you very much. –Samantha

My favorite part was when Billy and Ruth got married. –Juan Pablo

The pie fight was funny. –Alex Garcia

My favorite part was the fake kiss. –Evelyn

The part with the underwear was funny. We laughed a lot. –Maday

Lunch was very delicious. –Exson

I liked the potato chips. –MaryAnn Orozco

Thank you for letting us visit CSD. CSD uses American Sign Language. –Antonio



Suzanne Hemsworth serves visiting students.



Actress Shea Rasmus signs her autograph.



Principal's advisory council helps one of the families find a place to sit.



Farewell message from Producer CM

It is with heavy heart that I write this “farewell” note. After being the high school play producer for eight consecutive years, it is going to be difficult for me NOT to produce another one next year. I want to take this opportunity to thank the ENTIRE school community for coming together EVERY year. It gives me sheer pleasure to see so many people from all of the divisions coming together to make each production successful. Not only that, we reached out to the community by inviting the mainstream school students. Many ASL students, parents, relatives, and Deaf and hearing friends came! The utmost reward that I got out of the whole thing was to see many of our students shine on the stage! With this note, I say my good-bye!



Mr. and Miss Deaf Teen America



L to R: Interpreter (Laura); Megan; Mom (Lisa); and Dad (Steve) at Optimist Club Competition Megan wins first place!

California School for the Deaf, Fremont
Home of the Eagles

Summer Sports Camp

July 8th - 11th: Girls Basketball
Students entering 4th - 12th grade this coming fall, 2008

July 14th - 17th: Wrestling
Students entering 6th - 12th grade this coming fall, 2008

July 14th - 17th: Girls Volleyball
Students entering 8th - 12th grade this coming fall, 2008

July 28th - 31st: Boys Basketball
Students entering 4th - 12th grade this coming fall, 2008



'The Pink Ladies' in Grease (Megan is the second girl from left)



Performing in *The 3 Musketeers*.

For more information visit

www.csd.f.k12.ca.us

Click on **Outreach**, then **Kids Connection**



Former CSD valedictorian Megan Matovich graduates cum laude from Gallaudet University in May 2007. Pictured here with university president Dr. Robert Davila.

CSD hones Megan's leadership skills & her passion for international travel

I grew up knowing no other school than CSD; I started at CSD when I was 18 months old. During my life at CSD, I worked hard and always tried to exceed expectations. I loved learning and participating in various events, such as storytelling competitions, cheerleading, drama (all four years in high school), Optimist Club speech competition, science fair, and Academic Bowl.

CSD offered opportunities for leadership, too. I served three years as class president, one year as student body government secretary, and one year as vice-president of SBG. My senior year, I had the honor of being the yearbook editor-in-chief and co-chair for the prom. In 2001, Blake Herbold and I competed as Mr. and

Miss CSD at the Mr. and Miss Deaf Teen America competition. We went on to win the title!

I also have CSD to thank for my love of traveling. It was my sophomore year when international studies launched for the first time. During spring break of my sophomore, junior, and senior years, I was able to travel to England, France, Italy, China, and Costa Rica with the international studies class. I loved it and knew it was only the beginning for me.

I graduated in 2003 as the class valedictorian. The caring and supportive teachers and staff at CSD prepared me well for the next adventure in my life: Gallaudet University, here I come!

Gallaudet University was a completely different experience than my 16 years at CSD. My years at CSD had given me the confidence and leadership skills to run for class president my freshman year at Gallaudet. I served as the class president for four exciting years. It was hard work with 250 university students (compared to only 60 students at CSD). It was worth every minute of it because I came out of it a better leader. I also worked for Student Body Government during my sophomore year. I continued to feed my passion for traveling by visiting Germany (twice), Italy, Dominican Republic, Poland, and Austria. I plan to travel to Sweden, Denmark, and Germany (for the third time) during this upcoming spring break.

Throughout my first two years at Gallaudet, I kept changing my mind about a major. At first, I decided on history. However, I soon realized that majoring in history might not be exactly what I wanted. As luck would have it, my roommate was an ASL/Deaf studies major. After talking about her major with her, I was hooked. I decided to change my major with only three semesters remaining before graduation. Fortunately, I was able to load up on classes and graduate in four years. During that time, I fell even more in love with American Sign Language. I always knew how to sign growing up, of course, but I never knew the linguistic structure of sign language. It fascinated me.

It's amazing to look back on my first four years at Gallaudet and see just how much I've grown.

I graduated in 2007 with a degree in American Sign Language, but school wasn't finished for me, yet.

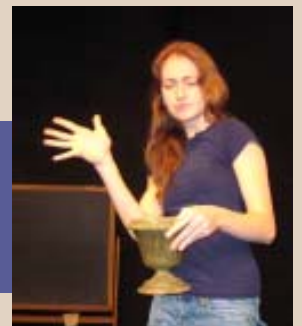
I'm currently a graduate student at Gallaudet majoring in Deaf studies with a concentration in sign language teaching. Graduate school is a whole new experience for me. For the first time since my senior year at CSD, I tried out for the play production, *Agamemnon*. I will play the queen, Clytemnestra. I've been enjoying every minute of practice like I did in high school.

When looking forward to the future, I can't believe how I'm actually almost finished with school. I can't wait to go out and show the world what I've learned and what I can do. I wouldn't be the person I am today without CSD's opportunities, Gallaudet's life changing experiences, and my parents' undying support. I plan on moving to Europe (most likely Germany) after graduation. I've always wanted to live in another country. I want to see the world and I will.



In front of Frauenkirche on a visit to Munich.
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Rehearsal for *Agamemnon* at Gallaudet University.



Andrew Paratore
Stage Manager



California School for the Deaf
39350 Gallaudet Drive
Fremont, CA 94538

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“Silent Laughter” photographers:
action photos by: Cat Cassidy
portraits by: Barbie Dike

